

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 IO-11 SCCT-01 /071 W

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P R 231441Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9889

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 0617

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS,LE, SY

SUBJECT: INITIAL MFA VIEW OF CEASE-FIRE IN LEBANON

1. WE ASKED MFA DIRECTOR OF MIDDLE EAST DIVISION (VERED) JAN. 23 FOR HER INITIAL REACTION TO THE CEASE-FIRE IN LEBANON. SHE SAID SHE HOPES THAT THE CEASE-FIRE WILL HOLD, IF ONLY FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS.SHE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SHE WOULD VIEW THE DEVELOPMENT WITH "HEALTHY SKEPTICISM" UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT BECOMES EVIDENT THAT FRAGIEH CAN CONTROL THE CHRISTIAN EXTREMISTS AND ARAFAT THE PALESTINIAN REJECTIONISTS. SHE ASSUMED THAT ASAD COULD KEEP SAIQA AND THE PLA ON BORAD.

2. VERED SAID THAT HER TENTATIVE RELIEF THAT THE FIGHTING MAY BE OVER IS TEMPERED BY THE FACT THAT SYRIAN INFLUENCE IS NOW PREDOMINANT IN LEBANON. SHE DESCRIBED THE CEASE-FIRE AS HAVING BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT THROUGH THE INTRODUCTION BY SYRIA OF MILITARY FORCES IN SUFFICIENT STENGTH THAT THE CHRISTIANS HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ACCEPT CONDITIONS WHICH AMOUNT TO FAR-REACHING CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL BALANCE WITHIN
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LEBANON.

DUNNIGAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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